

Tuesdays with Tammy Nevada Libraries Forum
from
Nevada State Library, Archives and Public Records
10 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
November 10th, 2020

Attending: Tammy Westergard, Sulin Jones, Norma Fowler, Bruce Douglass, NSLAPR; Diane Baker, Tod Colegrove, Carson City; Kassie Antonucci, Elko County; Elizabeth Robinson, Humboldt County; Danielle Milam, LVCCCLD; Courtney Oberhansli, Mineral County; Forrest Lewis, North Las Vegas; Alyssa Wogee, Pahrump; Joan Dalusung, Washoe County; Eric Walsh, GBC; Maggie Farrell, UNLV; Ron Belbin, WNC.



WHAT PEOPLE ARE THINKING RIGHT NOW



Strengths:

- Libraries continue to be flexible and innovative in adapting services as needed.
- Libraries provide essential services to their constituencies.
- Libraries are recognized as a solution to helping families and communities.



Struggles:

- Maintaining services while keeping a safe work environment.
- Finding ways to assist their communities during the COVID19 pandemic and economic downturn.



Opportunities

- Being clever, creative, and sustainable during these times creates support among communities we serve.
- Demonstrating the effectiveness of libraries in times of crisis.
- Providing services and access to technology for students at all levels.



Trends

- Libraries continue to provide digital services and devices to increase access for families and individuals in the community.
- Libraries are gradually increasing public access to their facilities according to the circumstances of their own communities.

Announcements:

- Webinars involving customer service and Mental Wellness are posted on our site:
<https://nsla.nv.gov/COVID19/10MinuteWellness>
- Nevada Humanities is soliciting essays for online publication around the topic of first-time voting in the United States. Nevada Humanities is seeking essays from first time voters and seasoned

voters reflecting on the first time they ever voted, including emerging voters who have come of age and not yet had an opportunity to vote, new Americans, newly engaged voters, re-engaged voters, formerly incarcerated people who have regained the right to vote, newly enfranchised people, and others. Essays will be published on [nevadahumanities.org](https://www.nevadahumanities.org) and shared on the organization's social media channels. Selected essays may be developed into video recordings, as well.

- Joan Dalusung contributed an essay which can be read, along with others, here: <https://www.nevadahumanities.org/nevada-voice>
- Nevada Writers Hall of Fame is this Thursday, November 12 - <https://library.unr.edu/nvwhof>

New Tuesday Schedule

- ***Check-ins will be monthly starting December 1, 2020.***
- **Date/time: 1st Tuesday of the month @ 10 am**
- **Meeting link & password will not change**
- **We'll continue with weekly Tuesday check-ins through the end of November**

Libraries in the News:

- NSLAPR is partnering with Desert Research Institute to initiate a program to provide STEM kits to public libraries. The program is made possible by a NASA competitive grant which we applied for back in August. We are one of seven institutions in the country that were selected. You can find out more here: <https://www.nasa.gov/feature/stem/team-ii-remote-opportunity-rapid-response-solicitation-selections-announced/>

Check-in

Sulin Jones, NSLAPR: LSTA program reminders:

1. LSTA 2021: the announcement for Federal year 2021 grants was emailed to directors on Nov. 9, including info about the mandatory webinar on Wednesday, November 18th, 2020 for those planning to apply for LSTA 2021 Grants. The webinar will be recorded for later viewing. Please let me know if you haven't received this information.
2. LSTA 2020: we have 3rd cycle mini-grants available. If you haven't been awarded a mini-grant or haven't reached your \$10,000 mini-grant cap, you can submit an application. If you need help, contact me.
3. CARES Act: if you're a public library and haven't submitted your CARES Act application, please check-in (if you haven't done so already). The funds have been allotted and are still available to you.

Bruce Douglass, NSLAPR: Just a reminder that we have the FRP/MiTM Learning Circle, session 3 coming up next week at 10:00 a.m. on Monday and Thursday. The Learning Circle is open to all library staff to come and discuss how to incorporate early literacy and Mind in the Making Executive Function skills. We record the Learning Circle and have made the previous sessions and supplementary videos available on the NSLAPR YouTube Channel and encourage all library staff to view them.

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBrzCbTGrobUtJKs5Bdg8rA/videos?view_as=subscriber

Alysha Wogee, Pahump: Posted in chat: We are all good and doing well.

Eric Walsh, Great Basin College: Things are going well. The area has around 100 COVID cases a day and people are taking precautions very seriously; only people with a direct purpose are allowed to be on campus. The library is considered essential in terms of equity so it is open for students who need access to printing or other services while providing full services electronically.

Forrest Lewis, North Las Vegas: Things are moving along and staff are finishing projects. We got approval to fill two vacant positions that have been on hold. The City recognizes the needs of the citizens to have access to activities and sees parks and libraries as vital for their well being.

Ron Belbin, WNC: The library is providing services online while still maintaining some in-person service. The college will be going completely online as of November 24 through the end of the semester with a skeleton staff on campus. The library will still be open M-Th 8-8, F 8-4 for students needing access to technology or quiet study space. They found a good candidate for the open librarian position and are planning a three-year structured training program utilizing the strengths of the candidate.

Joan Dalusung, Washoe: We chose to use our CARES Act money on Chromebooks and wireless printers. The Incline Library did a soft launch yesterday on a first come-first serve basis with a 30 minute time limit. All other branches will launch on November 30. Some libraries plan to use their meeting rooms while others are planning to offer the services outside. The wireless printers have an app that patrons can put on their own devices. The libraries are excited to be able to offer computing and printing services. The libraries are giving age-appropriate books as summer reading prizes until the end of the month; after that, any remaining books will be distributed in the community with the help of United Way.

Maggie Farrell, UNLV: The Diversity series panel is going well and was put together by Su Kim Chung and Claytee White. There will be seven panel discussions related to diversity with the speakers coming from the community and UNLV. It is a good way to show libraries who we are and that we are leaders in our community in holding difficult conversations in a respectful way. The panels are being archived so that you can listen to the previous panels here: <https://www.library.unlv.edu/weneedtotalk> They will also be added to the oral history research center, and a resource list is included as well. (Post-meeting update - *Future We Need To Talk Episodes Postponed Until February: In light of rising COVID-19 rates in Nevada and Gov. Steve Sisolak's order to limit in-person gatherings, the remaining three episodes of the We Need To Talk: Discussions on Racism For A More Resilient Las Vegas series will be postponed. The series is tentatively scheduled to resume in February with conversations on education, health care, and next steps.*)

Diane Baker, Carson: We just installed new self check machines that were purchased with CARES Act funds from the City. They can be completely hands-free. We are still doing virtual programming for STEM on Fridays. Next week will be our annual Turkey Bingo on Zoom. People have to register and pick up packs with their Bingo Cards. We are still waiting to install outside book lockers. Our big project for December will be replacing our automated material handler which has reached the end of its life cycle.

Kassie Antonucci, Elko: We are looking at ways to adapt services to make sure that the library patrons and staff are protected, especially at the branches that have only one staff person. We are looking into installing doorbell/intercom systems and making appointments for coming into the buildings. The bookmobile has been running since September and is localizing the stops and doing more school stops. It has a doorbell for people to ring as only one person is allowed on at a time. We are looking at our programs and are trying to figure out how to keep the biggest ones - the Sugarplum Tree that distributes gifts for the holidays to those who need them and the "food for fines" program that will benefit the local women's shelter.

